

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 Claim 1. (Original) A process for the production of α -interferon comprising the steps:

- i) inducing of human leukocytes by means of a virus,
- ii) treating the leukocytes with an enhancing agent selected from
 - a) xanthine, pyrimidinol and pyrimidinone, theophylline, theobromine, enprophylline, hypoxanthine, 8-phenyltheophylline, 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methylpyrimidinol, 2-amino-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol and thymine;
 - b) an organic solvent selected from the group consisting of non-aromatic ketones, aliphatic or cyclic amides, alkylated aliphatic or cyclic urea derivatives and aliphatic or cyclic sulfoxides; or a combination of the compounds from a) with an organic solvent from b).

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Claim 2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the leukocytes are monocytes.

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Claim 3. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is added at the same time or up to 4 hours after the virus induction.

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Claim 4. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

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Claim ~~5~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1,
characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim 6. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, characterized in
that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 7. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, characterized in
that the enhancing agent is thymine.

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Claim ~~8~~. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1,
characterized in that the organic solvent is any of acetone, 2-butanone, 1,3-dimethyl-
2-imidazolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 4-methyl-2- pentanone,
N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 2-pyrrolidinone, tetramethylene sulfoxide or and
N,N-dimethylacetamide.

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Claim ~~9~~. (Original) A process according to claim ~~8~~, characterized in that
the solvent is N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone.

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Claim ~~10~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~2~~,
characterized in that the enhancing agent is added at the same time or up to 4 hours
after the virus induction.

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Claim ~~11~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~2~~,⁹

characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

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Claim ~~12~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~3~~,⁷

characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

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Claim ~~13~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 10,

characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

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Claim ~~14~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 2,⁹

characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

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Claim ~~15~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~3~~,⁷

characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

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Claim ~~16~~. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim ~~4~~,²

characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim 17. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 18. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 3, characterized in that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 19. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is thymine.

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Claim 20. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim ⁹2, characterized in that the organic solvent is any of acetone, 2-butanone, 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 4-methyl-2-pentanone, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 2-pyrrolidinone, tetramethylene sulfoxide or and N,N-dimethylacetamide.